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CENTRAL FAX CENTER****FEB 28 2005****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: DEBOER, Evert, E.; RYAN, Darryl, C.
Serial No.: 09/620,248
Filed: July 20, 2000
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR OPTICAL COMMUNICATION
PROTECTION
Group: 2661
Examiner: Phirin SAM
Attorney Ref.: PAT 2606-2 US

February 28, 2005

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street S.
Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington VA 22202
U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 27, 2004, please amend this application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 14 of this paper.